

21. The electron-optical lens arrangement with an axis capable of being substantially displaced according to Claim 20, wherein said static magnetic field has a pole shoe, with the form of said pole shoe being chosen so that, independent of deflection, an emerging particle stream travels parallel to an incident particle stream.--

REMARKS

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified patent application, please enter the foregoing amendments.

Claims 10-21 are now pending in the above-identified patent application, as presented by the instant Preliminary Amendment. Claim 10 is the single claim presented in independent form.

The present application represents the U.S. National Phase of P.C.T. Application No. PCT/DE00/02797, filed August 16, 2000, and claiming foreign priority on the basis of a corresponding Federal Republic of Germany patent application, filed September 18, 1999.

The claims being entered via the present Preliminary Amendment are intended to substitute for Claims 1-9 of the P.C.T. international application. An English translation of the P.C.T. international application is being concurrently filed.

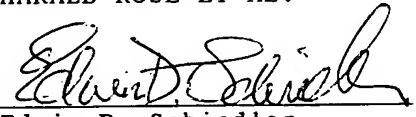
New Claims 10-21, which have been drafted in conformance with U.S. claim practice. Various formal amendments have also been entered to the Specification, and an Abstract for the application, on a separate sheet of paper, is enclosed.

The application is now in condition for a full examination on the merits.

Accordingly, an early examination on the merits and allowance are, therefore, respectfully requested and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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